



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

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Veteran Citizens Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB)

Meeting Summary

January 21, 2010 2-4 p.m.

Mercer Island Library

4400 – 88th Ave SE, Mercer Island 98040

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Doug Hoople at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Chair Doug Hoople, Vice-Chair William Wood, Cynthia Lefever, Robert Stephens Jr., Francisco Ivarra, Gary Kingsbury, Ron Forrest.

Board Members Excused/Absent: Roger Welles, Stan Gunno, Oren Hadaller, Kathy Lewis

County Staff Present: Debora Gay, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Joel Estey, DCHS, Erica S. Herrera, DCHS

Guests: None

Review of Meeting Summary

The draft November meeting summary was reviewed.

ACTION: The November meeting summary was approved as written.

Elections

William Wood was nominated by members to be Chair and Francisco Ivarra nominated to be Vice-Chair.

ACTION: William Wood was elected Chair and Francisco Ivarra was elected Vice Chair for the coming year.

Committee Reports

At the 11/19/09 meeting Marcy asked board members as part of their oversight responsibility if they would review the 2008 Performance Reports developed by the program managers and posted with the procurement plans on the levy website. She created a form to assist them in their review. It was suggested the review could be divided among the members to share the work, and

the members could provide feedback. The board response to their review of the Strategy 1, 2, 3 and 5 reports is provided below.

Strategy #1 Increasing access to services for veterans

Strengths

- Strategies 1.1 and 1.2 were implemented well, especially the expansion into South King County.
- The branch office was well sited at Renton Worksource, and a satellite office established in Auburn.
- The Request for Proposal (RFP) process for Strategy 1.3 for a Veterans Phone Resource has been completed, and WDVA was selected to implement the project. The next steps include contract negotiations.
- The RFP to select providers for the Outreach to Underserved Minority and Women Veterans is currently underway. A pre-proposal conference was held on January 20, 2010 and applications are due on February 20th.

Weaknesses

- Failed to increase the client case load especially with veterans of color and female veterans.
- Need to work on gathering concise data on who is actually being served.
- Need to develop a strategy plan using non-traditional methods to reach veterans especially the underserved populations.

Strategy #2 Ending Homelessness

Strengths

- South end Mobile Van service was opened that has been successful in connecting homeless individuals with health care services.
- For Activity 2.4(b) supportive housing services, projects targeting Veterans were given highest priority.
- McDermott House that has reserved beds for veterans is open.

Weaknesses

- The reviewer noted Activity 2.1 (b-2) failed to provide gender information in their report.
- 2008 progress reports were reporting staff was still being hired.
- Funding amounts were not provided and receiving agencies not listed.
- Evaluation reports need to include statistics on services provided to veterans as it was not clear from the progress reports what level of veterans were served
- Need more veteran specific housing projects.

Strategy #3 Behavioral Health Services

Strengths

- Veterans Levy funds were included in allocations to community health clinics, for Activity 3.1 in attempts to serve greater numbers of veterans in the community.

Weaknesses

- Report indicated 2,000 people were served in 2008 and only 80 were veterans. [Staff Note: This project was in start-up phase in 2008 with Veterans Levy funds disbursed to community agencies in February and in July. Several awards were for focused projects to increase the number of veterans served. Data from 2009 indicates a total of 7,476 individuals were served by this activity of which 2,471 (33 percent) were veterans.]
- Though early in implementation, the program did not report improved mental health behavioral outcomes for those served. It was suggested the client survey used by WDVA's for their PTSD counseling services may be helpful in determining improved behavioral health outcomes.

Strategy #5 Evaluation

Strengths

- The Evaluation unit is creating 2-3 page reports on all Levy activities that will be available by summer 2010.
- Site visits will be organized for board members so they can view programs first hand.
- By mid February 2010, statistics will have been submitted for 2009 Levy activities.

Weaknesses

- None

Chair's Report

- None

King County Staff Report

- 2009 Expense Forms were provided and collected from members.
- Financial Disclosure Forms were given out and collected.
- Joint meeting was postponed until February 4, 2010. Sadikifu will be honored and two board members will be saying a few words.
- The King County Boards and Commission Reception will be held February 8, 2010, from 6-8 pm at the Museum of History and Industry. Please R.S.V.P directly or to Marcy.
- Debora Gay reported March 3, 2010 Dow Constantine will come out with his list of Executive priorities. It is her understanding he will support a fall 2011 renewal date for the Levy.

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Doug Hoople requested permission to deliver the outreach presentations/annual report information personally to the Bellevue City Council. The boards supported this.
- Cynthia Lefever reported a Public Forum on Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) will be held on January 27, 2010 from 5-7 pm in Olympia, Washington. Further information can be obtained on the website: www.tbiwashington.org . Cynthia will be one of the four speakers. She also stated that veterans are not well represented and this event would be a great opportunity for someone from the board to talk about veteran needs.
- In April 2010 the Traumatic Brain Injury conference will be held. The date is yet to be determined.

Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)

- None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.